

14:5-8.1 **Purpose & Scope**

This subchapter sets forth *uniform standards for electric utilities to follow* ~~requirements that must be met by utilities~~ in the management of vegetation...

14:5-8.2 **Definitions**

“ANSI Z133.1” means the document entitled 1994 *2002* Pruning, Trimming, Repairing, Maintaining, and...

Line Clearance Tree Trimmer
Property Owner
Four-year Maintenance Cycle
Notify, Notification
ISA

"Contractor" means any corporation, co-partnership or individual acting as an agent of the utility with which the utility contracts to perform the work required and/or furnish material, and shall include any and all subcontractors engaged by the corporation, co-partnership or individual with which the utility contracts to perform any of the obligations required by such contracts.

"Vegetation management" means a system of controlling trees and other vegetation to maintain safe conditions and the reliability of electric service. Control options include biological, chemical, cultural, manual and mechanical methods which keep trees and other vegetation clear from electric utility facilities, and provide access to these facilities, including poles, energized distribution, sub-transmission and transmission conductors, towers, and other hardware as deemed necessary to provide for public safety, and the efficient and reliable supply of electric power.

“ANSI A 300” *2001* means part 1 of the document entitled...

14:5-8.3 **General Provisions**

(a): ***Joint Ownership of Facilities:** Vegetation management activities are to be performed so as to ensure that electric utility facilities will be able to provide safe and reliable electric utility service, even though the electric utility company may not be the sole owner of some of these facilities.*

(b) Prior to starting *planned* vegetation management activities...

(c): This is a new provision - previous version never mentioned penalties.

14:5-8.4 Maintenance Cycle

(b) If potential problems are found....shall ensure that ~~maintenance~~ *vegetation management* is performed....

14:5-8-5 Technical Standards for ...

(a) An electric public utility, *or their contractors*, shall perform vegetation management ...

(b) Use previous version of vegetation manager (VM) in definition. of vegetation management: *Vegetation Management program shall be managed by an employee or agent of the utility who possesses knowledge and experience in electric line clearance and utility hazard vegetation pruning methods and safety procedures.*

(d)2: ANSI A300 *2001*, as defined...

(d) 5: ~~Pruning Standards for Shade Trees~~

(d) 7: ANSI Z133.1 *2002*, as defined...

(f) *See 14:5-8.6 below*

A general comment is that it would not be appropriate to include such standards as the Pruning Standards for Shadetrees as this is a re-write of the ANSI A300 Pruning Guidelines. The Pruning Standards for Shadetrees is a document that is written and published by the NJ Board of Certified Tree Experts, and can be re-written at any time. National standards are the result of consensus within an entire industry and are not based on local issues.

14:5-8.6 Training

When a utility uses a contractor to perform vegetation management, all contractors' personnel shall:

(a) be trained in proper electric Arboriculture and safety practices.

(b) Abide by all safety rules or requirements including all applicable safety and health standards promulgated under OSHA and all other applicable Federal, State, county and

municipal regulations and standards including the latest revision of the ANSI Z133.1 Standard for Tree Care Operations and OSHA 29 CFR Part 1920.269.

(c) Be informed of all applicable Federal, State, County, and Municipal rules and regulations to ensure compliance

14:5-8.7 **Public Notice of Planned Tree Trimming**

(a) The utility shall make a reasonable attempt to notify the appropriate tree and/or property owner(s) prior to performing any planned vegetation management activities. The utility shall notify tree and/or property owners prior to performing any planned vegetation management activities such that tree and/or property owners have a reasonable opportunity to communicate with the utility or its agents about planned activities. Notice may be in any form reasonably calculated to provide actual notice, including but not limited to printed door hangers, mailings, and/or e-mail notice.

(b) An electric public utility *or their contractor* shall maintain a record of...

(c) An electric public utility shall notify municipalities and public authorities ~~that may be~~ *if directly* affected by vegetation management activities *in their jurisdictions.. Notification shall be as stated in 14:5-8.7 (a).*

(d) ~~(Delete this paragraph)~~ Notice regarding planned vegetation management work shall be appropriate to each public utility's policies and procedures, and easement rights; and shall conform to the *communities each serves.* ~~requirements of each municipality in which the vegetation management activities will be performed.~~

14:5-8.8 **Outreach programs**

(add (c)) Each municipality shall draft an ordinance prohibiting the planting of trees with a mature height exceeding twenty-five (25) feet within fifteen (15) feet of the centerline of an electric utility's high voltage facilities.